

**ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Environment – Delegated Powers Meeting</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>06 September 2010</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Conversion of Existing Footways to Shared-Use Pedestrian and Cycle Footways. A6123/ A630 Mushroom Roundabout.</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Environment and Development Services</b>

**5. Summary**

To seek authorisation to convert the footways surrounding Mushroom Roundabout to a shared-use pedestrian/ cycle footway. This will form part of the scheme to signalise Mushroom Roundabout.

**6. Recommendations**

**It is recommended Cabinet Member resolve that:**

- i) detailed design is undertaken and that the scheme be implemented in the 2010/ 11 financial year.**
- ii) the footways shown in blue on the attached drawing number 126/17/TT127 be removed under the power conferred by section 66 (4) of the Highways Act 1980 and constructed as a cycle track under the power conferred by section 65 (1) of the same act.**

## **Proposals and Details**

The large volume and speeds of vehicles negotiating Mushroom roundabout creates an uncomfortable environment for less experienced cyclists to ride around the roundabout on the carriageway. This can create a barrier to cyclists when trying to access local facilities and services.

Detailed design is currently being undertaken to signalise Mushroom Roundabout. This scheme will include toucan-crossing facilities on all arms of the roundabout, allowing both pedestrians and cyclists to cross the A6123 and A630. It is therefore proposed to change the legal status of the footways surrounding the roundabout to shared use, which legally permits cyclists and pedestrians to use the footway. This will allow cyclists to ride on the footway around the roundabout and use the toucan-crossing facilities provided.

Where possible, it is proposed to widen the footways to 3m, this is in accordance with the suggested width for shared use footways in the Department for Transport's Cycle Infrastructure Design guidance. Where it is not possible to widen the footway, these widths will be retained at a minimum width of 2m.

Please find attached drawing number 126/17/TT127 displaying the proposed extents of the shared use footway.

## **8. Finance**

This scheme is estimated to cost £ 75, 000 and will form part of the A630 Rotherham to Thrybergh Smart Route Proposed Improvements which have been included in the LTP strategic fund programme, and the South Yorkshire Passenger transport Executive's Programme.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

Failure to provide the shared use facilities may reduce the benefits of the proposed crossings and will reduce local accessibility.

## **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

This scheme will improve sustainable access, for local residents in regeneration areas to local facilities and services such as shops, supermarkets, bus stops and employment destinations, such as Eastwood Trading Estate and Corus. This will be achieved by extending the current cycle network in the local area and providing improved crossing opportunities of major roads for pedestrians and cyclists. This is in line with the Accessibility Planning shared priority within the Local Transport Plan.

## **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

As part of the local Accessibility Planning process for Dalton and East Herringthorpe, (which also linked into the HMR master planning process for this area), a workshop was held with members of the local community in the summer of 2008 to identify accessibility issues and barriers to accessing facilities and

services. Mushroom roundabout was seen as a major barrier to pedestrians and cyclists, particularly across Aldwalke Lane, as there are currently no crossing facilities on this arm. The roundabout was also seen as dangerous to use by cyclists.

It was also highlighted that there were safety concerns with the use of the subway on Fitzwilliam road, particularly in the evening, and it was mentioned that this is inconvenient to use.

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